

CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER

FOUNDED BY
ARTHUR MEE

Every Wednesday—Fivepence

Week Ending 16th February, 1963



HE TALKED IN CLASS

*And what a story
he told!*

TO be caught talking in class during lessons usually leads to dire trouble. But when Stephen Smith of Darlington was caught "speaking out of turn" he got—a pat on the back!

Stephen was by the frozen River Skerne when he heard a cry, and saw that someone had fallen through the ice into water which was 15 feet deep.

Inch by inch he edged himself across the ice towards the trapped figure. The victim was eight-year-old Kevin Inglis, who had been playing with a friend only a few seconds before. Suddenly, the treacherous ice had given way, and Kevin plunged into the water. Now, hopelessly trapped, he could only watch and hope as his rescuer moved slowly towards him.

Stephen had meant to keep quiet about the rescue, but he mentioned it to another boy during one of the lessons at school. Mr. Jones, his Form-master, caught him talking and ordered him to the front of the classroom to tell them all what was so interesting that it couldn't wait until after school. The story they heard was naturally a great surprise to them all.

"Brave thing to do"

Stephen wasn't punished—instead Mr. Jones gave him a pat on the back. When Stephen's headmaster, Mr. Norman Clark, was told of the rescue, he called the boy to his study to congratulate him. "It was," he said later, "a very brave thing for him to do!"

Recommendation is being made that Stephen should be given an award for his heroism.

Exhausted, but safe

Stephen managed to reach him, and somehow hauled the boy out of the water. A few minutes later both of them lay exhausted but safe on the river bank. A passer-by, who happened to spot them, bundled them into his car and drove them home.



Stephen Smith and the boy he saved, Kevin Inglis

Once-a-week detectives

Twenty-five schoolboys at Darlington, Durham, are having one afternoon a week to visit Police Headquarters for training. After 15 weeks they have a test in all branches of police work. If they pass, it helps them to win one of the Duke of Edinburgh's silver awards.

The Police Superintendent said: "The boys see all police departments and use all the equipment we use. They see far more of what goes on than the public normally would."

KEEPING IT UP

It is easy to make a good resolution, but not so easy to keep it up. Three Leamington school-girls, members of the Red Cross Society, decided to give up their Saturday mornings to shop for disabled people.

That was two years ago, when the girls were 13. Since then, they have never missed a week—a record they can be proud of!

Brushing up their writing

A new term has started in a Tokyo primary school and the pupils are getting right down to their writing lesson. Only, to make Japanese characters, you have to use a brush.

Seeking Life On Mars

The United States intends sending to Mars, in 1966, an "expedition" of highly sensitive instruments. These will detect any signs of life there and send the news back to Earth.

It is thought that bacteria may exist on Mars. So one of the instruments will contain a sticky radioactive thread. Specks of

dust from the planet's soil will stick to the thread. If the dust contains living organisms, their presence will be recorded and signalled.

Another instrument will contain chemicals which change colour if they come into contact with protein—an essential substance in living matter.

Readers' Letters

He asked for an interview with Mr. Gaitskell

Richard Peroni (seen in our picture), a schoolboy of Hampstead, London, runs his own single-sheet magazine. He calls it Poor Richard's Almanack and we print an extract from the latest issue received.



Last October I wrote to Mr. Hugh Gaitskell and asked him if he would be good enough to give me an interview for my paper. In my letter I told him that part of the money with which I purchased my duplicator had been earned by helping Charlie, the Co-Op milkman, at week-ends deliver the milk to his house in Froggnal Gardens. In early November I was thrilled to receive a letter, written from the House of Commons, which reads as follows:

Dear Richard,

Thank you so much for your letter of the 30th October.

I should be very glad to give you an interview for your ALMANACK and perhaps I could let you know a little later on when I might have half-an-hour to spare.

Yours sincerely,
HUGH GAITSKELL.

His death, a little over two months later, is still difficult to believe. On behalf of the readers of POOR RICHARD'S ALMANACK I would like to express to Mrs. Gaitskell and her family our sorrow. His letter will always be a treasured possession.

Richard Peroni

Why don't you write to me this week? (The Editor, Children's Newspaper, Fleetway House, Farringdon Street, London, E.C.4)

Saskatoon calling!

Dear Sir,—I arrived in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, five months ago. Before coming to Canada I lived in Metz, France, for four years. I have been to eleven countries and have lived in three.

I enjoy reading CN very much. I get it here about three weeks after publication. I especially like Panorama, Jonquil Antony's Column, Readers' Letters, This Wide World, and Pick A Puzzle.

I would like friends from all over the world to write to.

Elizabeth Lane (11), RCAF Station, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada.

Traveller's Tale

Dear Sir,—I was very interested to hear about the CN adopting the Braemar Castle, as I came home to England from South Africa in the Union Castle liner, Kenya Castle.

I had my fourth birthday on board and a small party. I was born in South Africa in Durban and later moved to Kloof, 16 miles north of Durban.

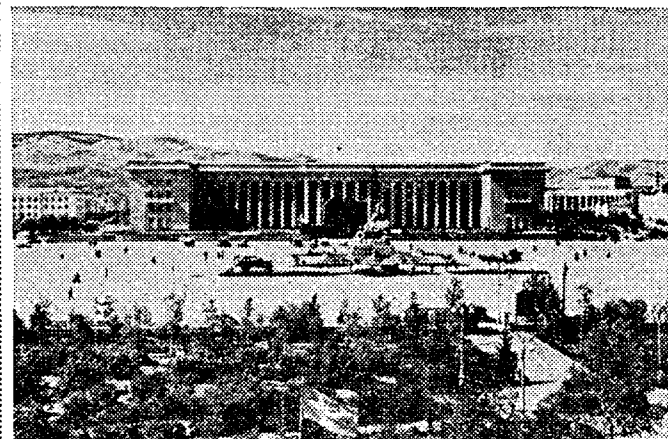
On one holiday we went to the Hluhluwe (pronounced Slushui) Game Reserve in Zululand and were charged by a rhino. On the voyage home we stopped at Las Palmas in the Canary Islands. We went by car up an extinct volcano and saw a farmhouse inside!

Robert Oakley (12), London, N.W.10.

KNOW YOUR NEWS

EASTERN "LISTENING POST" FOR THE WEST

By our Special Correspondent



The main square in Ulan Bator, capital of Mongolia

A British diplomat will soon be flying into the farthermost recesses of Asia to set up Britain's first embassy in the Mongolian People's Republic, formerly known as Outer Mongolia.

He is Mr. Terence Garvey, who is at present Britain's representative in Communist China. And he will be the first Western ambassador ever to work in Ulan Bator, the capital of Mongolia.

This Communist republic, under its Prime Minister, Yumzhagin Tsendenbal, is a remote, ancient, and dusty land bordering China and Russia. It was once the centre of the great Mongol Empire under Genghis Khan, whose hordes of cavalry overran Asia and a part of Europe in the Middle Ages. Only a million people, for the most part wandering herdsmen, live there.

Why, then, should Britain consider Mongolia important enough to warrant setting up an embassy there?

This ancient State on the old caravan routes between Russia and China became Communist in 1924. In more recent times it has become an important factor in the quarrel between Russia and China about "peaceful co-existence."

China, which did not turn Communist until 1949, believes there can be no compromise with Western capitalism. Russia, on the other hand, believes East and West must learn to live together, otherwise—in this age of the hydrogen bomb—they may die together.

In this dreadful dilemma Mongolia (with all the Com-



Mr. Terence Garvey

munist world, except Albania, North Korea and North Vietnam) backs the Russian "peace" line.

It was in Mongolia that Mr. Krushchev first openly quarrelled with China on this issue.

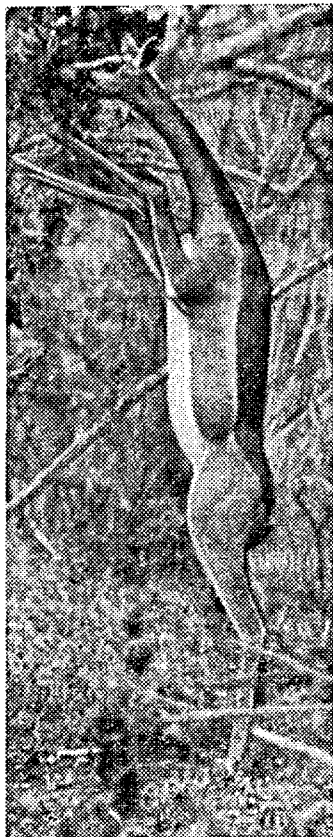
The Mongolian Republic may, as has been written, be an "empty land" where the ruins of the past seem more



Yumzhagin Tsendenbal, Prime Minister of the Mongolian People's Republic (left), and Chou En-Lai, Chinese Premier.

impressive than the cities of today. But for Britain and the West it is a "listening post" in the present conflict between the top Communist parties.

Pterodactyls, etc . . .



The long-necked Gerenuk, reddish fawn in colour, an antelope of East Africa.

Dear Sir,—I was very interested to read the letter by I. Cameron (26th Jan.) about pterodactyls, coelacanths, and okapi, and his suggestion that more "extinct" animals may turn up alive.

Besides the Loch Ness monster, which he mentions, there are other mysteries to be investigated. What about the Nandi Bear of Africa, the marsupial wild cat and giant kangaroo of Australia, the tail-less ape of South America, the ogo-pogo (rather like the Loch-Ness monster) of North America—and, of course, the Abominable Snowman of Asia?

Comparatively recently "extinct" animals have been found. What about the king cheetah, which was described by natives to white men, who did not believe them?

Animals have often been found long before scientists officially recognised them. There was the gerenuk, which the Ancient Egyptians knew about but which was not discovered in the modern world until 1878; and sheep discovered by Marco Polo, but not officially recognised until 1838.

Some quite good-sized mammals remained unknown until the last and the present century, e.g. the golden hamster, found in Syria in 1839 and "re-found" in 1930; the Giant Panda, discovered in 1869; and the great forest hog of Central Africa in 1904.

Hope for new finds rests largely in the tropical rain forests of Central Africa, the jungles of the Mato Grosso in South America, and parts of central Asia.

Andrew White (12), London, W.10.



Giant Panda

Dear Sir,—I was reading I. Cameron's letter about supposedly extinct animals.

In it there was reference to the Okapi, of which there are two only in Great Britain. They are in the Bristol Zoological Gardens.

The Okapis are in a large pen together and they used to fight each other. As a result their horns have been sawn off.

Robert Mather (10), Bristol.

Inquisitiveness in Animals

WE often hear it said that some animal is inquisitive; that is, interested in something—an object, a place, another animal, or even a person—with apparently no definite purpose in view. I wonder how true this is?

I am inclined to think that this seeming inquisitiveness is no more than a natural instinct for self-preservation. It might be, for instance, the testing, by means of

eyes or nose, of something which could be good to eat; or, perhaps, of some particular spot as a satisfactory nesting site or place to live in.

Some creatures are stated to be more inclined towards this kind of behaviour than others. Of the birds, jackdaws and jays are frequently quoted; while among the mammals, stoats and weasels are usually the chosen examples.

Tame jackdaws and some other members of the crow family will poke their bills into paper bags



TAKE A LOOK AT NATURE

with
MAXWELL KNIGHT

or flower pots—but are they being truly inquisitive, or is it that the objects they seem to be investigating appear to them to resemble something in which food can be found?

If you disturb a stoat or a weasel, it will often take refuge in an old stone wall or a rabbit hole or haystack. Keep quite still, and before long you will see its head pop out again. But that doesn't mean the animal is interested in you. Here, it is more likely to be using its eyes or nose to find out if it is safe to emerge.

Normal instinct?

But if you can make a sound with your lips in imitation of a rabbit squealing, the creature may well advance towards you. Now, is this real inquisitiveness, or is it just a normal instinctive association of the sound you are making with the noise made by a frightened rabbit?

Many mammals, and birds too, will look as if they were casually investigating some kind of unfamiliar food, placed in their

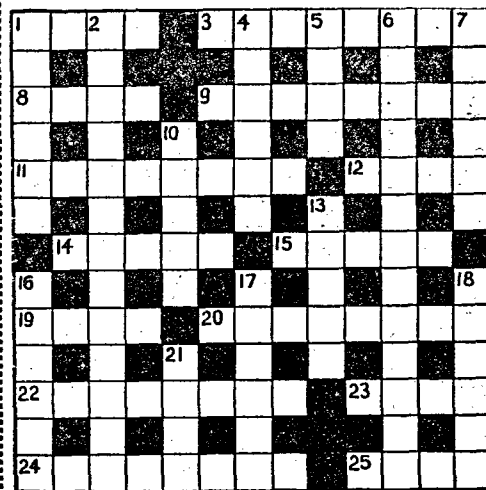
path. Personally, I am doubtful about this being an exhibition of an inquiring mind. I believe it to be a test to find out if the thing in front of them looks, smells, or tastes right.

Wild rats, for example, exhibit this sort of behaviour to a high degree, and few rats will eat anything without testing it carefully by sniffing it. And they have fine powers of scent.

I do not say that no animals ever indulge in being inquisitive for its own sake, but I do think that many commonly quoted examples are just precautions against danger, or are evidence of the use of normal senses in connection with feeding.

In the past I have myself fallen into error over this, but close observations have made me change my mind.

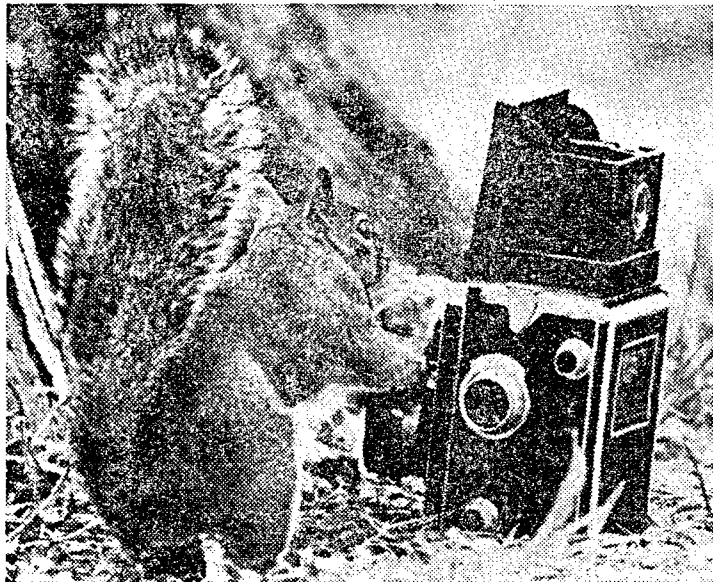
Crossword puzzle



ACROSS: 1 Manufactured. 3 Substance which may be in gas, liquid, or solid form. 8 Gardening tool. 9 Damaged. 11 Huge. 12 Not there! 14 Harmony. 15 Fruit, green or black. 19 There are 4,840 square yards in this. 20 He uses the answer to 8 across. 22 There were 12 in the New Testament. 23 Eager. 24 American State. 25 Draw on metal. DOWN: 1 Common or otherwise, there's trade in it! 2 England's senior Duke, now to be found in

Australia! (three words, 4, 2, 7). 4 Wit. 5 Breakfast, lunch, dinner. 6 We have a Special one on page Two. 7 Needed when rising to greater heights. 10 "The _____, a mighty man is he." 13 Commerce. 16 Capital of Cuba. 17 Will take a photograph. 18 People of France are this. 21 Knock senseless.

Answer on page 11



A camera and a curious squirrel

ADVENTURES of the BOVRIL BRIGADE!



GOSH, WHAT AN AWFUL DAY!

I'D HATE TO BE STRANDED ON THESE MOORS. HAVE WE FAR TO GO YET, KIT?



ABOUT SEVEN MILES. WE'LL STOP FOR SOME BOVRIL SOON.

THERE'S SOMEONE AHEAD OF US...



AND HE LOOKS AS THOUGH HE'S IN TROUBLE!



MY BIKE CHAIN IS BROKEN. I'VE BEEN WALKING FOR MILES. I'M TOO TIRED AND COLD TO GO ANY FURTHER.

EMERGENCY, ANNE GET THE FLASK!



HAVE SOME BOVRIL. IT WILL SOON PUT NEW LIFE INTO YOU!

I'LL FIX YOUR BIKE. I PACKED A SPARE CHAIN CLIP.



THIS HOT BOVRIL IS SUPER! I FEEL BETTER ALREADY.



LATER

HURRAH! THERE'S THE HOSTEL AND WE'RE IN TIME FOR SUPPER.

IN FUTURE I'LL ALWAYS CARRY A FLASK OF BOVRIL TOO!

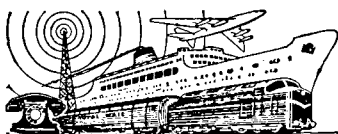
THE SECRET OF BOVRIL!

When you're adventuring you can't do without Bovril—it provides food elements your body needs. The extracted goodness of fresh beef and beef protein with B vitamins, Riboflavin and Niacin. Mum will be glad to give you Bovril if you ask her!



This Wide World

Briefly . . .



During a cyclone at Derby, Western Australia, the wind drove empty rail wagons more than a mile.

Reinforcement

Liechtenstein, the tiny independent State between Switzerland and Austria, is to increase its police force from eight to 17.

Three young German climbers recently took 17 days to climb the sheer north wall of the Great Lavaredo peak, 9,840 feet, in the Dolomites, north-east Italy. They drove 850 nails into the rock face and hauled up their food with ropes.

Fares please!

A Japanese express reached Tokyo four days ten hours late owing to snow. Passengers got their fares back—Japanese railways refund the money if any train is more than two hours late.

The 175th anniversary of Australia's first European settlement has been commemorated at Sydney by special street signs.

More being fed

United States surplus food-stuffs are reaching 92 million people a day in more than 100 countries—nine million more people than a year ago.



CATCH A BUS IN NEW YORK

Recently opened bus station for New York commuters. It is built on three levels connected by ramps with the George Washington Bridge across the Hudson River. Every day over 2,000 buses use it.

When the comet struck

In 1908 peasants in Siberia were terrified by a tremendous explosion that sent up a column of fire visible for 300 miles. It occurred in an uninhabited forest area, so no-one was hurt, but men 100 miles away said they had been knocked off their horses by the blast. The explosion caused a small earthquake which was recorded at a seismological station 3,000 miles away.

Evidently some huge object from outer space had hit the earth, but so remote was the place where it fell that years passed before it was found. Then it was estimated that the object had weighed 130 tons and had flown through the air at a speed of 50 miles per second before it burst.

Now Russian scientists report that the object was a comet, and not a meteorite as was supposed.

MONKEY MOVIES

Scientists of Chicago University have built a small cinema to study the reactions of monkeys to films. It has a door the monkeys can open themselves if they don't like the picture.

It has been found that their favourite films (naturally) are about monkeys, but if they see snakes the monkey cinema is empty in no time!

ANIMALS PROTECTED IN DENMARK

Wild animal turns in circuses are now forbidden in Denmark, and so is the showing of wild animals in travelling menageries. Dogs may not be chained up permanently, and methods of keeping calves to produce white meat are prohibited—as, also, is the battery system for poultry.

Stepping it up—and down

Men going to work from three mountain villages in the Apennines, near Florence, have to walk down 1,880 steps inside a mountain shaft to catch trains at a tunnel station. They have to climb the steps again every evening.

A cable-car that used to run up and down inside the shaft was destroyed in the war and has not been replaced because so many villagers have moved to the towns. A road to the village has been started, but before it is finished, leg-weary people may have moved.

OVER 14? UNDER 17?

WANT TO GET ON IN THE WORLD?

Plan now a career that can take you all over the world—Hong Kong, Singapore, Cyprus, Aden. Train in a trade that will get you an interesting, well-paid job wherever you go.

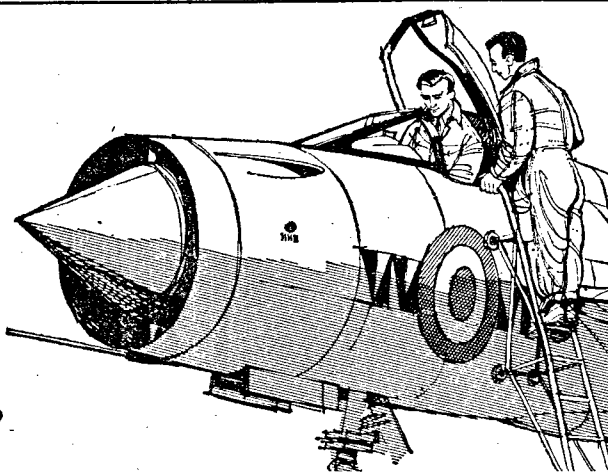
What an apprenticeship in the R.A.F. can mean to you

In three years as an R.A.F. apprentice you can gain valuable qualifications that would take you five years to achieve in industry: they are accepted for the award of the O.N.C. in Mechanical or Electrical Engineering as well as many other diplomas and certificates. They are also recognised by many Trade Unions.

During your training as an R.A.F. apprentice you will live well. You'll have unlimited opportunities for sport, over 6 weeks paid holiday a year, and three free travel warrants to and from your home. You will earn good money during your training—it goes up to £6.18.3. a week *all found*. You will have good chances of bettering your education—many R.A.F. apprentices take G.C.E. subjects during their course.

Your Prospects As an ex-apprentice you will have good prospects of senior N.C.O. rank and of being commissioned. Many officers started their careers as apprentices—and some of them have reached Air Commodore rank or even higher.

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Victory House, Kingsway, London WC2

Please send me without obligation the books:
'Highway for Youth', and 'A Fine Start In Life'. (Enquiries from residents in U.K. only.)

NAME

ADDRESS

Date of Birth

The Royal Air Force

NOUVELLES DE FRANCE

L'équipe de France de vol à voile a quitté Paris hier soir à bord du Boeing régulier d'Air France pour participer aux championnats du monde, organisés cette année à Buenos Aires, du 11 au 24 février. Huit personnes, dont un chef d'équipe, M. Lamort, et quatre pilotes, MM. Labar, Lacheney, Henry, et Marchand sont allés ainsi rejoindre les trois planeurs expédiés par bateau. L'un des pilotes, M. Camille Labar, est ingénieur principal à la direction du matériel d'Air France à Orly. Ce technicien—trois fois vainqueur des "Huit jours d'Angers," champion de France en 1959 et 1961, champion fédéral en 1962—est donc aussi l'un des meilleurs pilotes français de vol à voile.

A 10s. 6d. book token will be awarded for what the Editor considers to be the best translation of the above received by Wednesday, 20th February. The book token for 26th January issue has been sent to John McPhee, 73 Shawlands Street, Catrine, Mauchline, Ayrshire.

Singers, Bulls' Eyes, and Zoo Babies!



Jonquil
Antony's
Column

AT the Royal Albert Hall in London the Red Army Choir and Dancers—200 of them—begin a season which will continue until 7th March. This is the biggest contingent of artists ever to come from the Soviet Union to perform in England.

They are certain to give a magnificent performance, and the rush for tickets is sure to be on; so book now before it's too late.

The other day a Russian friend of mine told me about education in the Soviet Union.

There's an eight-year compulsory education for all boys and girls, and every young Russian knows that his whole future depends on it. Learning is taken tremendously seriously and, in

fact, is thought much more of than it is in Western countries. All tuition is free, university students getting grants to help them live while they are studying. On the other hand young people don't have the freedom to choose a career that they do in the West, because the number of people allowed to study for any particular profession is limited by the State. It cuts both ways—no profession is overcrowded and everyone has work.



Many of the customers on this girl's milk round in York have to thank her for more than just the daily pint. She is Pauline Robinson, and for the old and lonely she does all sorts of odd jobs—lighting fires, chopping wood and emptying dustbins, or making a timely cup of tea. In many cases Pauline's is the only face these people may see all day.

HERE'S a recipe for home-made Bulls' Eyes. They are fun to make, and surprisingly easy as well.

You need 1lb. of sugar, a quarter of a pint of water, a pinch of cream of tartar, and about half a teaspoonful of peppermint oil, which you can buy at the chemist's.

Put the sugar and water into a pan, stir until the sugar dissolves and then add the cream of tartar (not the peppermint oil). Boil the mixture until it's brittle when tested—you do this by dropping a little into a cup of cold water. Pour the toffee on to a greased dish.

Now comes the fun! Oil your hands with olive oil, butter, or lard, and take a quarter of the toffee as soon as it's cool enough to handle. Pull it and fold it again until it turns a creamy colour. Lay it to one side and then pour the peppermint oil over the rest of the toffee, pull and fold it until the oil is mixed in—but do not work it until white.

Lay the light strip of toffee over

the brown and fold it in so that the white is in the centre. Then pull and fold again until it is well striped. As it cools and gets crisp, cut it off into "cushions" with scissors. Dust with icing sugar and put into a tin when quite cold.

WE all know people who have successfully adopted babies—but if anyone likes to adopt a very different sort from the one you see in a pram, they can apply to the zoo!

To adopt a London Zoo baby, you can ask about it at the zoo itself. You might like one by way of a birthday present! A frog, or an owl, costs about four shillings a week, a gnu or a kinkajou about six shillings. If you want to be really daring in a big way, your baby can be a lion or a tiger—at 15s. a week!

Of course, you can't take the animal home with you, but you may be able to have your name on its cage.



Mr. Therm is a magician. He has a magic lump which is made of coal, ordinary coal. But when he rubs it, his magic powers release its hidden wonders . . .

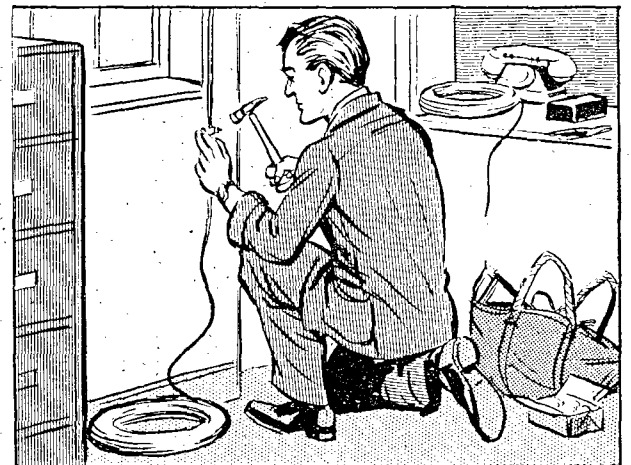
Maybe it isn't real magic, but it certainly seems like it! When Mr. Therm treats coal scientifically, he sets free the wealth that has been locked up in it for millions of years. This treatment is called carbonisation. This way, hundreds of different things we use every day can be made. When we burn coal on an open fire, we lose these valuable chemicals up the chimney as smoke and soot. Mr. Therm's magic saves them for us all.

ONCE upon a time the word "plastic" only meant something soft and easily moulded. Now you know that the telephone is made of plastic, and the electric light switches, yet they are hard and firm. So why are they called plastic? The answer lies in the method of making them. A telephone starts off as a mixture which is indeed plastic while it is hot. Once it has been pressed into a mould and heated, it sets hard and a chemical change takes place so that it cannot be changed in shape again.

Mr. Therm has something to do with all this, of course, for the ingredients of the mixture are all the result of his magic with his lump of coal. Phenol, ammonia and formaldehyde are all used to make a resin, which is dried and crushed and put into a mould. The plastic can be coloured in any shade from pretty yellow to black. From the moulding presses pour out streams of useful things, from tooth-brushes to radio cabinets.

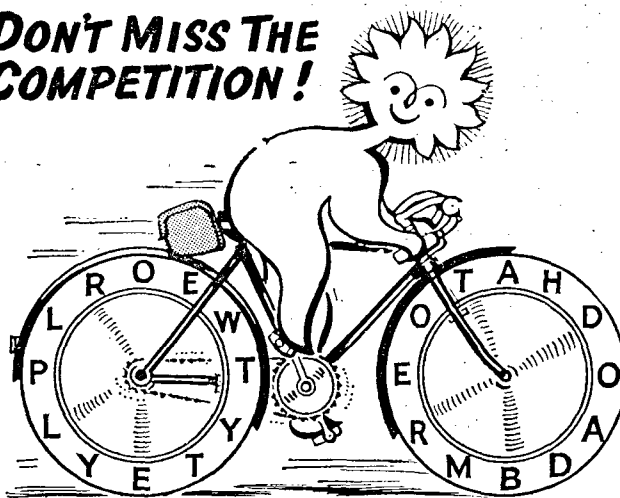
An extruder pushes out miles of tubes and rods. The flex that the man in the picture is fixing is covered with plastic, of a slightly different sort. This is softer and more supple, because it has a different chemical structure. So has the plastic sheeting, that we use at home and abroad for raincoats and curtains. When Mr. Therm rubs his magic lump, he can conjure up for us almost anything we ask him for, because so many hundreds of things can be made through his carbonisation of coal.

Issued by the Gas Council



* MR. THERM'S BICYCLE *

DON'T MISS THE
COMPETITION!

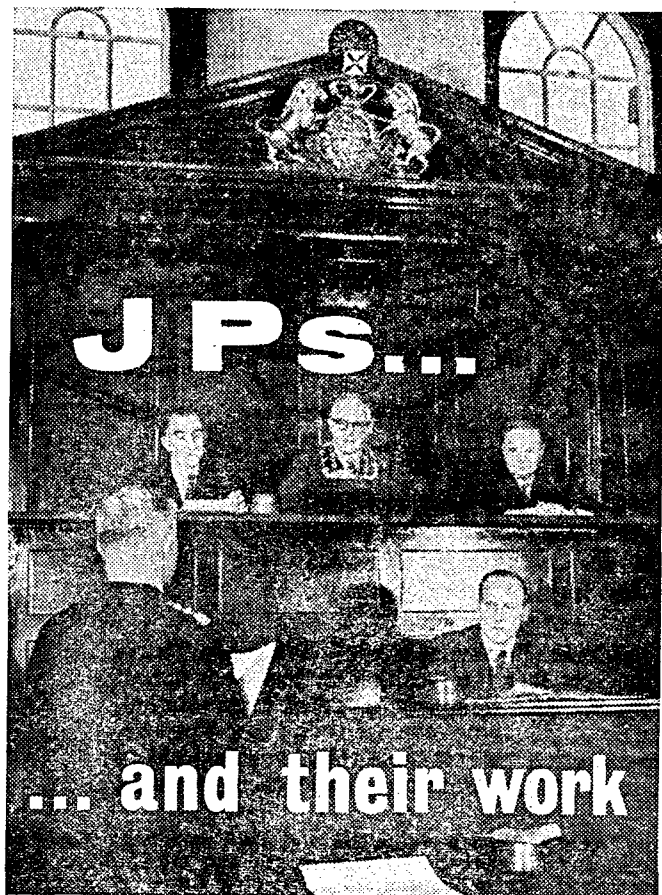


The four words hidden in the tyres of Mr. Therm's bicycle all appear in the story above. Write down each alternate letter, and if you start in the right places you will find two words in each tyre. Make a neat list of your answers on a postcard with full name, address and age. Ask a parent or guardian to sign it as your own work, then post it to: Mr. Therm's Bicycle No. 11, Children's Newspaper, 26/27 Farringdon St., London, E.C.4 (Comp.). Mr. Therm will award £2 2s. Book Tokens for the three nearest correct entries received by Friday, February 22nd. His decision is final!

Mr. Therm's Bicycle No. 6 winners were: Elizabeth Harper, Preston; Barbara Brockman, Alverstoke; William Waddington, Hillingdon. The words were: EXPORT. DESIGN. STAMPS. FABRIC.

GOOD COOKS USE GAS

How We Run Our Country



RECENTLY we talked about magistrates' courts and we saw that the bench in these courts was made up of magistrates, or Justices of the Peace—JPs, as they are sometimes called.

These Justices of the Peace do their jobs voluntarily. They are not paid and they do not have to be legally qualified. They are always men or women of good character who are well-known and respected in their areas.

JPs are appointed, on behalf of the Queen, by the Lord Chancellor (who is the head of the legal profession) from among those whose names have been put forward by "advisory committees" in counties and boroughs throughout the country.

The members of the advisory committees, who are usually all JPs themselves, may put forward nominations of their own, and they also receive nominations from local political parties, MPs, non-political bodies, religious bodies, and individuals.

Choosing a candidate

Every nomination is studied carefully by the committee to make sure that the candidate has no criminal convictions. Divorce, a bad driving record, and similar things may rule out a candidate. Every six months the committee meets to decide which names will go to the Lord Chancellor, but only those names on which all the committee are agreed can go forward.

Apart from JPs chosen in this way, there are some people who are "ex officio" JPs. "Ex officio," which is a Latin expression, means that they are JPs because of the "office" or position they

already hold in public life—and they are only JPs as long as they hold that office. Such people are mayors and chairmen of local councils.

In all, there are about 16,000 JPs—that is, magistrates—in the country, including some 4,000 women. There are about 950 magistrates' courts, and these deal with by far the greater part of the total number of offences committed.

In a magistrates' court, the bench for any particular case may not include more than seven JPs and will, in fact, rarely exceed five. There must be at least two JPs sitting on a bench.

Because JPs are not legally qualified, they are assisted by the Clerk of the Court, who must be a barrister or solicitor of at least five years' experience. He advises JPs on points of law, makes sure that the proper procedure is followed, and sees that JPs do not exceed their powers.

You will be able to see now that JPs have a very important job to do, and for this reason are very carefully chosen.

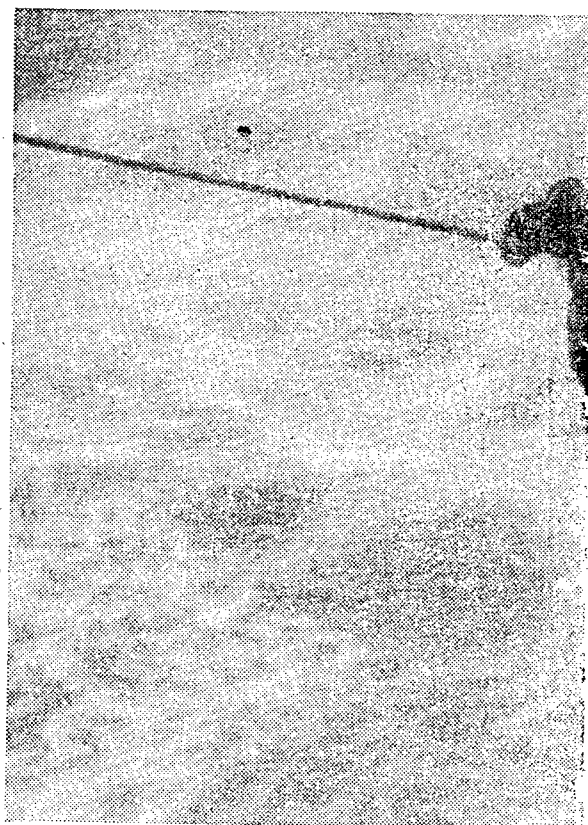
**NEXT WEEK:
PROBATION OFFICERS**



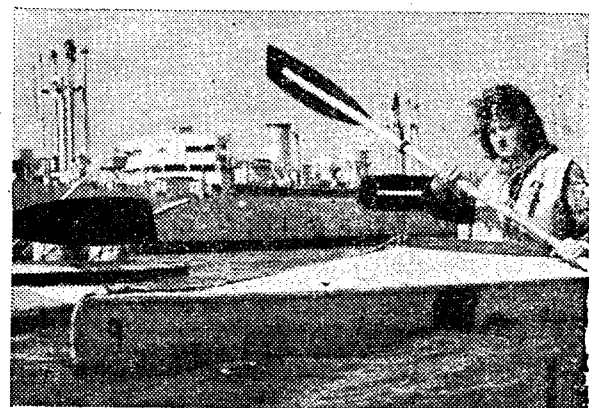
There is more than one way of getting to the top.



Canoeists challenge the rough water of the Derwent.



This rope is literally a "life line" in ship



Calm waters for two novices—after they have c



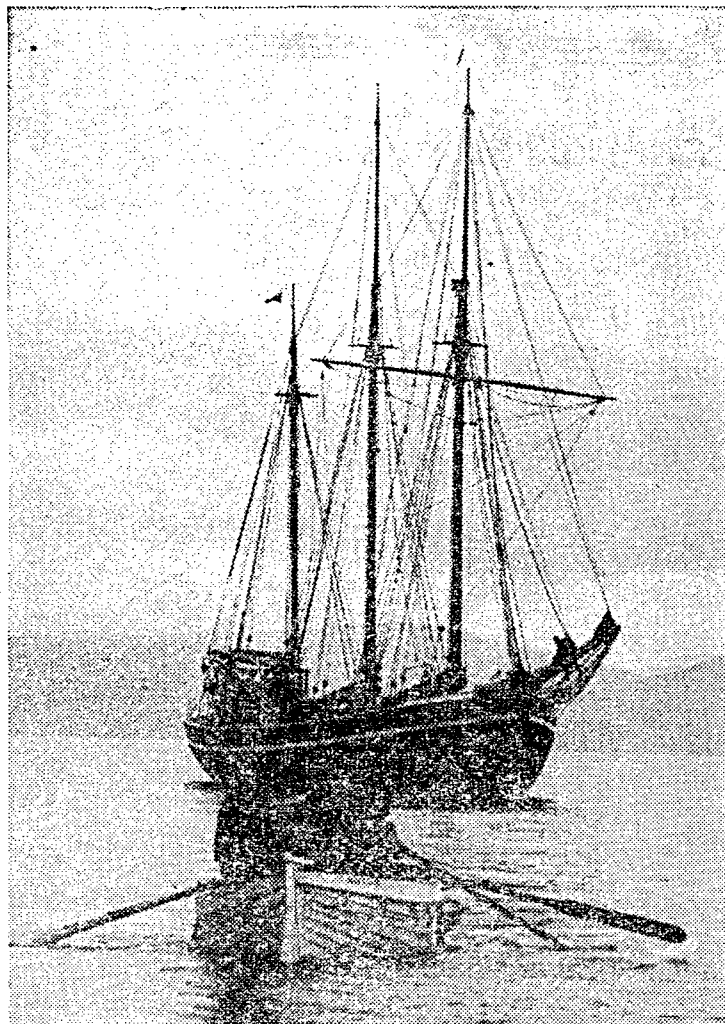
A team bring a stretcher down

February, 1963

PIORAMA — NEWS IN PICTURES



to-shore rescue practice.

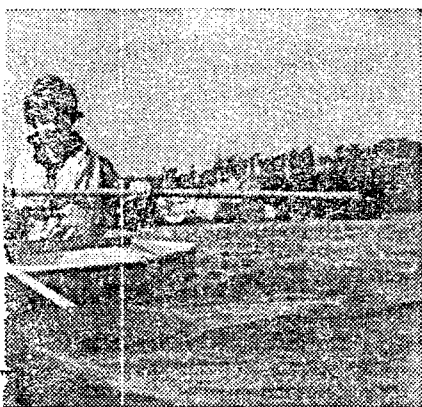


Lifeboat practice for the boys from the schooner *Prince Louis*.

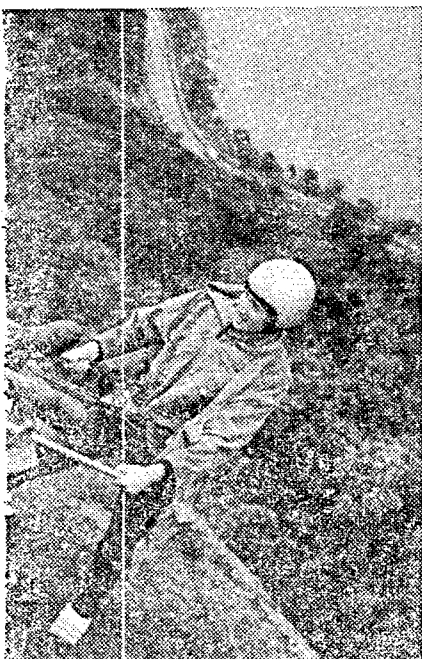
TOUGH!

If you're looking for adventure, maybe you would like to follow the example of the boys and girls in these pictures. They're members of the Outward Bound Schools, which run 26-day courses, aimed to develop character within a framework of adventure at sea, in the mountains, or elsewhere in unsheltered natural conditions.

As you can see, almost nothing is too much for these "pupils" to tackle. It should be emphasised, however, that they work all the time under a skilled instructor, who sees to it that they are never in any real danger.



conquered the turbulent River Dart.



from a mountain crag.



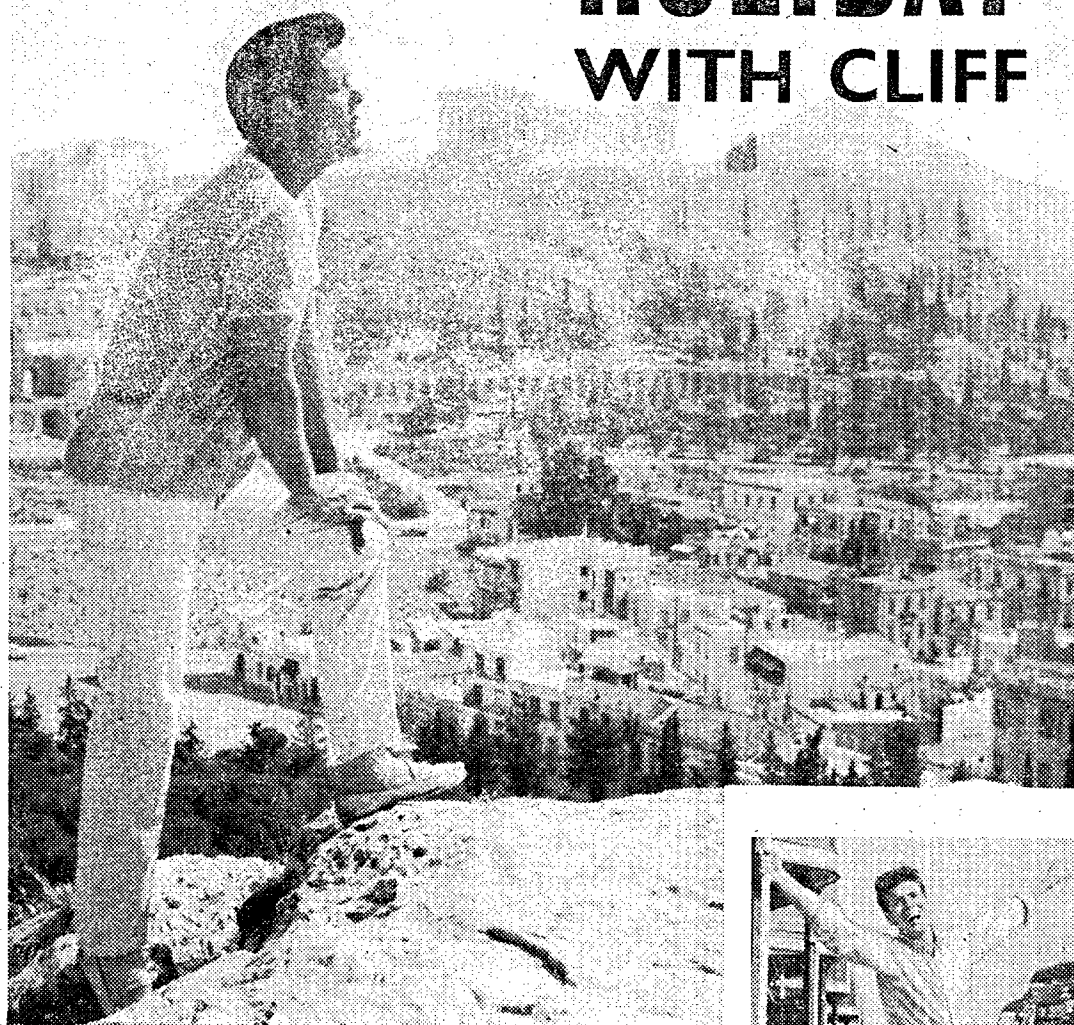
"Brewing up" on a mountain expedition.



A rescue needs skill as well as a strong rope.

FILM SPOT

SUMMER HOLIDAY WITH CLIFF



A PLACE in the sun! That's what most of us are looking forward to in these long winter days—and that's just what we get in Cliff Richard's latest film, *Summer Holiday*.

This time Cliff and some of the cast of *The Young Ones* (including *The Shadows*) set off in a converted London bus for a holiday in the south of France. And from the moment they leave the grey, wet English summer scene, we are in for nearly two hours of singing, swinging, fun, and laughter.

Cliff and his three friends set out for the Riviera. But they soon meet three stranded girls who have to get to Athens. Well, there's plenty of room in a London bus—and Greece is a wonderful place for a holiday anyway!

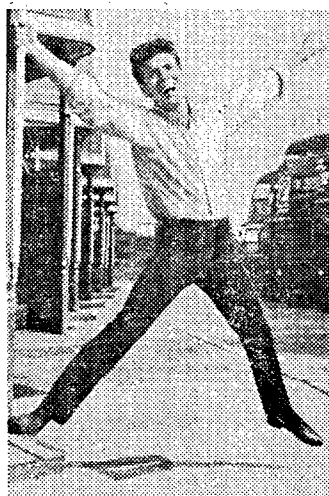
So, with songs all the way (two of them zoomed straight to the top of the Hit Parade) it's all aboard for the Acropolis, via Switzerland, Austria, and Yugoslavia.

The Young Ones broke box-office records all over Britain. *Summer Holiday* could break even those records.

Melvyn Hayes, Teddy Green, and Jeremy Bullock are Cliff's mechanic friends; and the girls who join them on their bus—Una Stubbs, Pamela Hart, and Jacqueline Daryl.

Cliff looks across to the ruined glory of the Parthenon on the heights above Athens

“Hurry along, please!” ▶



TV AND RADIO

by Ernest Thomson

MESSRS JACKDAW AND SQUIRREL

ANIMAL MAGIC, in BBC junior TV, has shown us some pretty magical pictures in the past, but nothing to beat the squirrel and the jackdaw next Tuesday, 19th February, in the first of a new six-part series. We see these two great friends making themselves at home indoors, hopping and skipping up and down stairs and investigating the bathroom.

Our old friend Johnny Morris is back as a keeper at Bristol Zoo. This time a long-cherished dream of his comes true. He takes the orang-utan for a walk and they share a picnic together.

BLOW ME DOWN!

YOUNG people's brass bands are to have their first five-week series on BBC junior radio, beginning on 23rd February. Two bands will take part from the BBC's North Region, two from the West, and one from London.

Listeners will hear the massed bands of the Boys' Brigade playing to an audience of 5,000 at the Royal Albert Hall in London. No wonder the BBC are making this the grand finale of the series. It comes up in the Home Service on 23rd March.

Now for Zero One



Air Security Chief Alan Garnett

I WONDER how many of you have missed the chance of seeing the late-night showings of *Zero One* on BBC-TV?

These fast-moving adventures of International Air Security Chief Alan Garnett (Nigel Patrick), are screened on Wednesdays at 9.30. Now comes the decision to skim the cream of the series for repeats in junior TV, starting on Saturday. Six episodes have been picked so far, with “Glidepath” as the first.

When I called on Nigel Patrick at his Chelsea home recently, he told me *Zero One* had given him the chance to act in every sort of situation—comic, dramatic, tragic—all inside 42 weeks of shooting!

Deep-Down Drama

LIKE to pay a return visit to the fabulous underwater city of Aegeria? The chance comes on Saturday with the start of ABC-TV's new six-part serial, *Secret Beneath The Sea*. This is a sequel to *City Beneath The Sea*, which took us 80 fathoms deep last December.

When the new tale begins, science journalist Mark Bannerman (Gerald Flood) and his young friend Peter Blake (Stewart Guidotti) are back in London, on board the atomic submarine *Cyana*, commanded by Captain Payne (Peter Williams). Little do they know that the arrival of a package will lead them straight back to Aegeria.

There's a starring role for 17-year-old Ingrid Sylvester, who left drama school only a few months ago. A natural blonde, Ingrid has darkened her hair for the serial. “My normal colour clashed with that of the other girl in the story, Delena Kidd,” she explained.



Ingrid Sylvester (left) and Delena Kidd

FRIENDS IN THE FREEZE

INVALIDS and the aged were the worst sufferers in the recent cold spell. In ATV's *A Box Of Birds* this coming Sunday morning compère Oscar Quitak hopes to interview quite a number of boys and girls who thought up ways of helping them.

LEAVE IT TO JENNINGS!

So far our famous schoolboy has got into trouble for losing his socks, and has been caught out of bounds in the village shop. Now read on and see how he battles cheerfully through yet another hilarious chapter of accidents in our great new serial.

5. The camouflaged text book

THE match against Bracebridge was memorable for its close and exciting finish rather than for its high standard of play.

Linbury batted first and scored 67 runs, of which Jennings' contribution was two not out. Then, refreshed by buns and lemonade, the visitors trotted out to field, determined to allow their opponents no chances. For most of the home side's innings the issue was in doubt, but, with the last ball of the last over of the day, the last Bracebridge wicket fell with their score at 65—a narrow victory for Linbury Court!

"YOU might almost say I won the match," Jennings confided to Bromwich in the dressing-rooms. "After all, those two runs I made were just the very ones we needed, weren't they?"

Bromwich snorted. "I made thirteen," he pointed out.

"Ah yes, those were useful, too, of course," Jennings conceded. "But say, for instance, I'd made a duck? Then we shouldn't have won, even with your thirteen, so it was really my 'two not out' that made all the difference."

Satisfied with the logic of his argument, Jennings glanced out of the window and noticed that the bus was approaching the bridge just outside Dunhambury. He smiled. He had made his journey over land and water as the gypsy had foretold.

THE first cloud on the horizon appeared the following Friday, during Mr. Wilkins' geography class. It was the lesson before morning break, and Mr. Wilkins devoted the last part of the period to inspecting the boys' text books.

A flicker of annoyance passed across his face as he glanced at the atlas on Jennings' desk. The book was old, battered, and ink-stained, having served its owner's quest for knowledge for a considerable time; but it was not its worn condition so much as the facetious drawings with which Jennings had seen fit to adorn the pages that aroused the master's wrath. A proper respect for school text books was a subject on which Mr. Wilkins held strong views.

HE picked up the atlas and glowered at the map of the world in hemispheres which met his gaze. Crudely-drawn space-ships were encircling the globe and battleships were sailing across the Pacific Ocean with smoke pouring from their funnels. Spindly-legged camels could be observed trotting across the Sahara Desert, while to the south a top-hatted Dr. Livingstone was exploring Darkest Africa. On the following page a physical map of the British Isles had been amended to include mountaineers tobog-

gating down Ben Nevis, and half a dozen Channel swimmers battling with rough seas in the Strait of Dover.

Angrily he flicked over the pages and observed sea-serpents overturning boats in the Mediterranean, and cowboys on horseback chasing Indians across the western States of the U.S.A. A whole-page map of

by Anthony Buckeridge

Australia depicted a Test match in progress; little pin-men fielders were spread across the continent and a batsman standing near Melbourne had just hit a ball which, judging by the dotted line of its flight, appeared to be falling to earth somewhere in Tasmania.

Mr. Wilkins clapped the book shut.

"DISGRACEFUL!" he fumed. "Sheer wanton destruction of school property! This atlas isn't fit to use, and I'm going to teach you a lesson by throwing it away and charging you full price for a new one!"

"Oh, sir!"

"Ten-and-sixpence, it'll cost you, and you can bring me the money . . ."

"Oh, but, sir, I haven't got ten-and-sixpence," Jennings protested. "My Aunt Angela said she'd send me a postal order, but it hasn't come yet—and I wanted that for something else anyway."

"You should have thought of that before you started ruining your atlas with ridiculous drawings," Mr. Wilkins said coldly. "I'll order you a new one, and you can pay for it just as soon as you've got the money."

The bell rang for the end of the lesson, and Mr. Wilkins turned to leave the room. At the door he paused and added: "What's more, Jennings, if I have any more trouble from you over losing or defacing your text books I shall—I shall—well, you'd better look out!"

JENNINGS was so determined to heed his Form-master's warning that he did not go out to join his friends during break. Instead, he set about tidying his desk and making sure that all his books were ready for the next period.

Unfortunately, they weren't! His arithmetic book, so essential for Mr. Wilkins' next lesson, was nowhere to be found.

"Oh, fish-hooks," he groaned, scattering the contents of his desk on the floor in his efforts to make a thorough search. He could remember having used the book as recently as the last maths period, but he couldn't recall seeing it since then. Had he lent it to someone? It was quite likely: but, if so, to whom?

He glanced at the clock. There was no time to carry out an inquiry among the possible borrowers. Practical



measures must be undertaken at once to avert Mr. Wilkins' wrath!

HURRIEDLY he bundled his books back into his desk. It was over-full and the lid wouldn't shut properly owing to the bulk of his school library book, *The Mystery of the Secret Galleon*, which lay on top of the pile.

A bright thought occurred to him. If he were to remove the gaily-coloured wrapper, it might be possible to disguise the book to look like a work on elementary mathematics. Well, from a distance, anyway!

He picked up the book and hurried along the corridor to the common-room, where he found several boys from his own form who had just come in from the quad.

"HEY, Venables! You're just the chap I want," Jennings announced. "I've got an idea. You know that present that came for you this morning?"

"You can put that idea right out of your mind," Venables replied. "It was only pyjamas and socks. Nothing to eat at all."

"No, I wasn't thinking about food—well, not more than usual," Jennings said. "All I want is the brown paper it was done up in, if you've still got it."

A search in the waste-paper basket produced the brown paper wrapping, which Jennings smoothed out and then started cutting to shape with his pen-knife.

ATKINSON sauntered across the room to see what was afoot.

"This is ye great camouflage scheme," Jennings explained. "You see, I can't find my arith. book, and we've got Old Wilkie again after break."

"Wow! You've had it then," Atkinson prophesied with gloomy relish. "He'll go into orbit if he finds out, especially after what he said during geog."

"Yes, but he won't find out," Jennings argued, folding and slicing the paper as he talked. "I'm going to make a brown paper cover and slip it over this book. If you didn't open it, you couldn't tell the difference."

Atkinson picked up *The Mystery of the Secret Galleon* and flicked over the pages. "Avast there, you scurvy landlubbers," roared the skipper, brandishing his cutlass and lunging out at the crew of mutinous cut-throats," he read. "The first man who moves, I'll clap him in irons!" It looked an exciting story. "May I borrow it?" he asked.

"Of course you can't borrow

it," Jennings retorted with some heat. "Hand it over. I need it for my camouflage scheme."

AT that moment the bell rang for the end of break and the common-room cleared as the boys dispersed to their classrooms.

"Hey, have you chaps seen Jennings' famous arith. book?" Venables demanded at the top of his voice as he sat down at his desk. "The most brilliant brainwave of the century. Guaranteed not to fail!"

"Oh, shut up! You've made me do a smudge," said Jennings, looking up from his lettering. "And I've forgotten how many m's there are in elementary now."

"Shut up? Me?" Venables retorted. "Well, I like your cheek! I go to all the trouble of sacrificing my brown paper and you turn round and tell me it's my fault you did a smudge . . ."

A HUSH fell upon the room as Mr. Wilkins arrived to begin the lesson: a hush unnoticed by Venables with his back to the door. " . . . And what's more, Jennings, this is jolly well the last time I'm giving you any of my possessions free of charge, so don't you forget it!"

"Venables!" said Mr. Wilkins, softly.

Venables jumped and turned to face the front. "Sir?"

"Were you talking?"

"Me, sir? Oh, no, sir!"

Mr. Wilkins raised his eyes to the ceiling. "You weren't talking!" he observed to the electric light shade. "Think carefully, Venables. I saw your lips move and I heard words coming from your direction. If you weren't talking, what were you doing? . . . Gargling? . . . Practising ventriloquism?"

Venables considered for a moment and said: "Well, I wasn't actually talking, but I sort of spoke, sir."

"Did you, indeed? I fail to see the difference."

"Oh, but there is a difference," Venables defended himself. "Talking is when you go on and on, but I just said something and then stopped, sir."


MR. WILKINS was not prepared to waste half the lesson in pointless argument. Ignoring the fatuous excuse, he strode to the blackboard to explain the method of multiplying mixed fractions; after ten minutes' exposition he decided to give the form some examples to work out for themselves.

It was then he realised that he had left his arithmetic book in the staff room and he strode to the nearest desk with hand outstretched to borrow another copy.

The nearest desk happened to be occupied by Jennings.

"Pass me your book," Mr. Wilkins said. "I haven't

Continued on page 11



JAMES STAGG

looks at the

NEW-STYLE

SCHOOLGIRLS OWN LIBRARY

"THE BEST BUY IN PAPERBACKS FOR GIRLS"

We asked author James Stagg, who has recently won the E. Nesbit Memorial Literary Prize for his story "A Castle for the Kopcheks", and whose story "Clarion Call" was serialised not long ago in "Children's Newspaper", to give us an appreciation of the new 28,000-word stories now appearing in "Schoolgirl's Own Library." He had this to say:—

"Having seen and read the first of the new productions of the Fleetway Schoolgirls Own Library, I must say that the standard of story is first class. I would go further and say quite positively that at the very modest price of 1s. 0d., the Schoolgirls Own Libraries are the best buy in paperbacks for girls.

Each of the Libraries contains a book-length story in which good reading and excellent entertainment can be enjoyed by girls between the ages of eleven and fifteen."

The first two titles in the new series are:

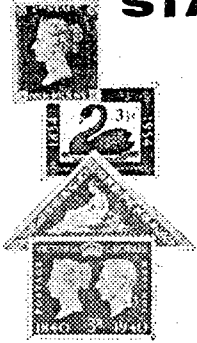
No. 395 THE TAMING OF TED

No. 396 MAM'SELLE PIMPERNEL

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2. What country issued the famous BLACK SWAN stamp in 1854, and commemorated its Centenary with a similar stamp in 1954?
3. What country issued the first TRIANGULAR stamp in the world—the "Cape Triangular" of 1853?
4. Which country NEVER puts its name on its stamps?
5. If "Perf." means "With Perforations", what does "IMPERF." mean?
6. Which country has SUOMI on its stamps?
7. What was the former name of GHANA?
8. What country has "C.C.C.P." on its stamps?
9. Are all genuine stamps always printed on Watermarked paper?
10. What stamps did PAKISTAN use prior to its independence in 1947?

If you answer five or more of the above ten questions correctly, we will send you a Prize of 200 unsorted stamps, catalogued over 30/-, FREE.

If you get all ten questions correct, we will also send you a 7/6d. book about stamps, FREE.

The senders of the first 100 All-Correct solutions will also be sent free a 5/- spiral-bound 128 page Stamp Album, FREE.

All Competitors will be enrolled free of charge in our New Approval Club (we simply send you a booklet of priced stamps "on approval", you buy any you want and return those not wanted, you are under no obligation to buy anything). We will also send you a Free Club Badge, plus a special Free Gift VOUCHER-CHEQUE value 12/6d. Fill in your name and address and cut out the WHOLE of this advertisement and send it to:

UNIVERSAL STAMP CO. (Dept. CN.Q), NAME.....
Eastrington, Goole, Yorks.

If any of your friends wish to enter for this Competition, ask them to write out their answers on notepaper and add their full names and addresses, and send them to us, enclosing a 3d. stamp part-postage.

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IT IS MOST IMPORTANT

that you print your full name and address clearly when replying to advertisements. Also please make sure that you send your reply to the address in the advertisement.

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Please tell your Parents.
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53 Newlyn Way, Parkstone, Poole, Dorset

WORLD OF STAMPS**Which to Collect—Mint or Used?**

"SHALL I collect mint stamps or used?" collectors often ask me. This is one of those questions to which there is no easy answer, so I usually have to reply: "It all depends!"

If you collect stamps simply for the pictures on them, whether of butterflies, sportsmen, aircraft, or anything else, mint specimens may be best. Nothing is more annoying than to have a stamp on which a heavy postmark hides a large part of the design.

One the other hand, postmarked specimens are sometimes more

used ordinary stamps with a portrait of the Emperor Franz Josef, but overprinted with new values in Turkish currency (paras and piastres). Mint specimens are therefore not particularly interesting. Used ones certainly are!

Pictured here is a 20-paras stamp used at the Austrian post office in Constantinople. Similar stamps were used in Beyrouth, Valona, Jerusalem, and other towns then in the Turkish Empire.

Some of the Austrian post offices were open only for a few years. Stamps bearing postmarks of these offices are consequently much rarer and more valuable than mint specimens.

The question of expense affects the "mint versus used" argument in several ways. Mint stamps are usually more expensive than used

Austrian stamp on a letter posted in Constantinople in 1905

interesting than mint stamps. The postmark may tell the collector quite a lot about the history of his stamp.

Before the First World War, for instance, the postal services in the Turkish Empire were slower and less efficient than those of many other European countries. For this reason several of the Great Powers opened their own post offices in various Turkish cities. Britain, France, Germany, Russia, and Austria were among those who did so.

Special stamps were used at these post offices. The Austrians

**OTHER NEW DISCS**

A dancing record with a difference is a collection called *Twmpath Dawns* (EDP226 Delyse. Extended Play 11s. 1d.). They are Welsh Barn Dances and have become popular since being featured in a Welsh TV programme.

Hank Williams was a folk singer and song writer whose songs are now coming into fashion. Pianist Floyd Cramer gives his interpretation of some of the songs on a fine album called *I Remember Hank Williams* (RCA Victor RD7518. LP 32s. 2d.).

Many of Billy Fury's fans prefer him to sing slow ballads rather than his more furious songs. These people will like his new disc *Like I've Never Been Before* (Decca 45-F11582. Single).

Ballet Music by Glinka and Gounod is featured on a new LP *Russian And French Ballet Music* (HMV ALP1962. LP 36s.) recorded by the Philharmonia Orchestra under Efreim Kurtz.

RECORD**JUST LISTEN TO THE TWINS!**

A YEAR or so ago Elaine and Derek, 13-year-old twins from Ireland, made their first record. It was not a pop song and it had no orchestra or group backing. They just sang—with a piano.

Since then they have been singing in many parts of the world and their new record—*Hey, Paula* (Piccadilly 7N35105. Single)—is a teenage pop song enjoying big success in America.

But in their traditional style they have also just recorded a series of well-known Scottish songs under the title of *Westering Home* (Piccadilly-Heather NEP34014. EP 10s. 9d.).



The attractive sleeve for the new record of Scottish songs sung by Elaine and Derek.

specimens, if they are high values from one of the larger countries.

The current 1s. 3d. regional stamp for Northern Ireland (see previous column), for instance, costs that amount to buy in mint condition. But used specimens can be obtained for a penny or two, or even for nothing if you happen to receive them on a parcel!

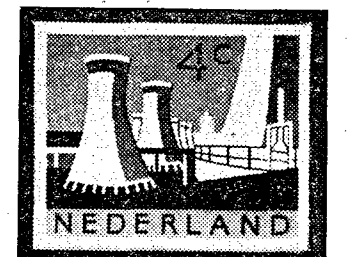
Mint issues from small countries, where few stamps are needed, may be cheaper than



used issues. Such an example is Christmas Island, the Australian possession in the Indian Ocean.

Christmas Island stamps, in the design shown here, range from 2-cents to 1 Malayan dollar. A complete mint set is catalogued by Gibbons at 8s. 4d., while a used set catalogues at 10s. This is because Christmas Island has only about 2,000 inhabitants and comparatively few stamps are used there.

Also illustrated is a new definitive stamp from Holland. It has a view of cooling towers at an electric power station in Limburg. This stamp will be sold in large quantities for several years, so



used specimens will always be cheaper than mint.

C. W. HILL

Sewing machine boys

Eighty Ulster boys, who work at a raincoat factory, have become experts with sewing machines. They now repair their sisters' party dresses!

Boys can go to the factory at Newry, Co. Down, straight from school and, with incentives and bonuses, can earn up to £10 a week while they are still under 17.

PICK A PUZZLE

by
Guy Williams

What Was It?

Can you re-arrange the letters in the words below to form the name of a large extinct animal?

TO SAM DON

FIGURE IT OUT

528161 81275
124250 50343
133213 32231

Complete the two addition sums above. When you have done so, change the answers into letters according to the following code:

A C D E I N P R W
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

If you have done the sums correctly, the letters will provide the name of an already-famous boy who will be three years old next Tuesday.

In short

Here are some abbreviations that are in everyday use. Do you know what each means?

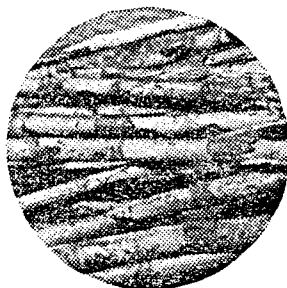
A.M. A.R.A. C.O.D. D.S.O.
L.S.D. M.C.C.

TRACK THEM DOWN!

BY starting in one corner and passing through each square, the letters will form the names of eight animals. Can you track them down?



CIRCULAR PUZZLE



Stack of timber, water pipes, reeds, or . . . ?

Country from numbers

Can you, from the clues below, find the name of a colourful Eastern country? The numbers indicate the position of the letters in the answer.

A European country is formed by 51248.

483 can be used in writing.

A difficult job is 6753.

Make a mark with 56248.

It has gone with 1756.

348 will bring relatives.

HOW OLD?

JEFFREY is twice as old as David. In 12 years' time Jeffrey will be four times as old as David is now.

How old is David?

LEAVE IT TO JENNINGS!

Continued from page 9

brought mine with me." Until that moment Jennings had been feeling confident that his ruse was going to succeed. Now he panicked and clutched the bogus maths book in alarm.

"OH no, sir, not my book!" he pleaded. "Couldn't you borrow Darbshire's, sir? It's—er—it's larger print, sir, and the pages are cleaner."

The master looked at him in some surprise.

"It's not your place to tell me whose book I'm to borrow," he said severely. "I've already asked you to hand me yours."

"But, sir, I can't give you mine, sir!" Jennings stammered. "Because—er—because—well, because I haven't got one, sir."

By this time Mr. Wilkins' patience was wearing thin.

"Stop this ridiculous nonsense at once, boy!" he snapped. "How can you say you haven't got one when there it is in front of your nose, as large as life, in a brown paper cover?" To prove his point he snatched the book from its owner's nerveless fingers and pointed to the ink-smudged title on the front. "There, look! *Elementary Arithmetic—Without Answers!*"

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES

Crossword (P. 3). ACROSS: 1 Made. 3 Chemical. 8 Rake. 9 Impaired. 11 Enormous. 12 Here. 14 Unity. 15 Grape. 19 Acre. 20 Gardener. 22 Apostles. 23 Keen. 24 Arkansas. 25 Etch. Down: 1 Market. 2 Duke of Norfolk. 4 Humour. 5 Meal. 6 Correspondent. 7 Ladder. 10 Smith. 13 Trade. 16 Havana. 17 Camera. 18 French. 21 Stun. What was it? Mastodon. Figure it out: Prince Andrew. In short: Ante Meridien (Before Noon); Associate of the Royal Academy; Cash on Delivery; Distinguished Service Order; Librae, Solidi, Denarii (Pounds, Shillings, Pence); Marylebone Cricket Club. Track them down: Hare; weasel; fox; badger; squirrel; rabbit; hedgehog; mole. Country from numbers: Pakistan. How old? Six. Circular puzzle. Sugar cane.

HE retraced his steps to the master's desk and opened the volume at what he judged to be the chapter on mixed fractions. His expression changed as he found himself reading: "... and with one blow of his fist the enraged bo'sun sent the rascally sea-cook sprawling full-length upon the deck."

"What—what—what on earth is this?" he spluttered.

"The *Mystery of the Secret Galleon*, sir," Jennings replied meekly.

"I can see that, you silly little boy!" Mr. Wilkins exclaimed. "What I want to know is, what it's doing in my class masquerading as an arithmetic text book?"

To be continued

© Anthony Buckridge, 1963.

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SPORT

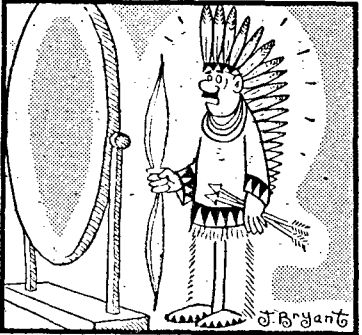
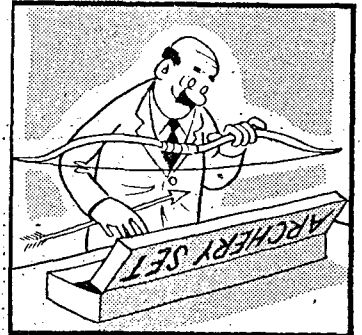
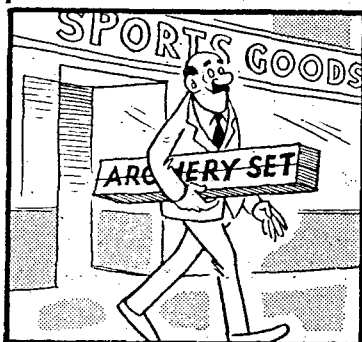
Go cycling in Calais

THE World Cyclo-Cross Championships will be held at Calais on Sunday. Riders from many countries will compete.

The British team includes Mick Stallard, who won the National Championship two weeks ago. With him will be John Atkins, Keith Mernickle, and Bill Radford.

The World Cyclo-Cross Championship has never been won by a Briton, and our hopes cannot be high this year; the winner is likely to be one of the French or Italian riders.

ALL-ROUND ALFIE



THIS weekend should see some exciting cricket at Sydney, where England must win this Fifth, and final, Test if the Ashes are to be brought back from Australia.

England's only win at Sydney since the war was in the 1954-55 tour. Three members of the present team—Colin Cowdrey, Tom Graveney, and Brian Statham—played in that match. Let's hope that history repeats itself!

Our picture of the Sydney cricket ground was taken during the Third Test last month. Australia won this match, to bring the series level once more after England had won the Second Test in Melbourne.

Top of the Table

THE new ranking list of the men's section of the English Table Tennis Association shows Chester Barnes, 16-year-old Forest Gate boy who surprisingly won the Closed Championship a few weeks ago, in third place. This is the first time he has appeared in the national ranking list.

Ian Harrison of Gloucestershire retains his No. 1 position; he is followed by David Creamer, the Middlesex player who previously held third place. Another Middlesex player, Alan Lindsay, appears in the list for the first time, as No. 10.

BOY WITH THE WHISTLE

MORE and more boys are taking up refereeing, according to the Football Association. Now some of the pupils at Bromley Grammar School, Kent, have formed the first Football Referees' Society in a British school.

Fifteen Sixth Formers are preparing to take their Class III examination; those who pass qualify to referee school matches and local league games.



Gymnastics in the Hall

THE British National Gymnastics Championships are being staged at the Royal Albert Hall in London on Saturday. Monica Rutherford from Sunderland and Nick Stuart, of the Army Physical Training Corps, hope to retain their individual titles as champions.

Monica Rutherford (seen in our picture), who took up gymnastics as a schoolgirl, is a teacher-student in physical education.

Among Britain's men gymnasts, Company-Sergeant-Major-Instructor Nick Stuart is outstanding. National champion for the past seven years Nick, now 35, is expected to retain his title.



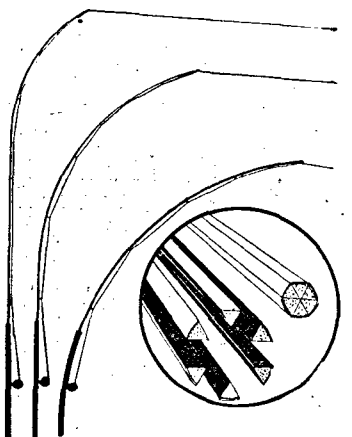
LAST week on the river bank I overheard three young fishermen arguing about rod "action," and since they were not very sure of this, it's time I had a word about it.

The "action" of a rod is the manner in which it behaves under stress—in fact, the way it works when it is being used to control a fish. Some rods have a stiff action, others a sloppy one, and, of course, some are in between.

Specially written for CN by Harvey Torbett

In coarse fishing the stiff-actioned rod is used in match fishing, when every fish hooked must be landed. For this purpose the rod must be extra long, maybe up to 16 or 18 feet.

At the other extreme there is the rod which is very flexible throughout the whole of its length. This may be because it is for use in swift, heavy waters which soon pull out the softness



The tip action (left), the "tip and middle," and the all through action. (Inset): How built cane is made up from triangular sections.

of the rod. Usually such rods are needed for tough, heavy fish, such as carp, barbel, and pike.

To get this "all through" action, a rod is usually made of built-cane throughout and its flexibility goes right from the tip to the corks under the angler's hand. Such a rod is ideal for waters like the fast-flowing Hampshire Avon. But it's an expensive buy for your first rod!

The compromise is something between the two, a rod which is tough enough to handle most fish, which will cast across to the opposite bank, and also carry fairly heavy tackle. Since this needs a "tip and middle" action, the butt is fairly stiff, usually of whole cane, and the tip and middle are of built cane, tubular-glass-fibre, or light cane.

This is the kind of rod which will stand the rough treatment most beginners hand out. It's also a reasonably cheap rod to buy, and I suggest that you stick to this until you really need something heavier.

Next week: Reels.

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